

October 22, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Janis Kimmel
5005 Windsor Avenue
Edina, MN 55436
USA

October 22 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV. I strongly believe that this misuse of technology will do little but stifle legitimate innovation (including slowing the adoption of digital television) and infringe on the consumer's fair-use rights.

One of the most serious problems with the "broadcast flag" proposal is that it places control over marketplace innovation in the hands of the MPAA, an organization with no vested interest in innovation. In fact, the MPAA can be viewed as having more of an interest in the LACK of innovation, in that they are rooted firmly in the current technology and content distribution model.

Allowing the MPAA to veto new features in digital television equipment is like giving organized crime the power to veto new wiretap laws. As a business organization, the MPAA will always act in the interest of its members, and not the public. The result is that marketplace innovation will suffer, and consumers will have to make do with fewer features and no way to exercise their legally protected fair-use rights.

It is a system tailor-made to appeal to the Hollywood content providers alone, striving to protect their existing business models in the face of new technologies. It is only recently after all attempts to shut down online distribution channels have failed that the major studios represented by the RIAA have setup their own download services. Rather than adapt to the realities of the current situation, they wish to force electronics manufacturers and consumers to fit with what they desire to be reality.

The Broadcast flag proposal places unreasonable restrictions on both consumer electronics manufacturers and the consumers themselves. And it facilitates the creation and maintenance of media monopolies by giving the major movie studios the power to dictate technologies that are beneficial to them and detrimental to independent artists and producers, thus stifling competition in the marketplace.

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Sincerely,

Collin Lynch
5680 Forward Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
USA

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Sincerely,

Sean Middleditch
8355 S. Huron River Dr.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
USA

Wednesday, October 22, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Aaron Burt
12198 NW 30th St
Pompano Beach, FL 33065

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Don Washington
205 arbor lane
Franklin, NC 28734

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Sincerely,

Jason Lunz
2701 Bonnie Ave
Doraville, GA 30340
USA

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Sincerely,

Christopher Lake
5269 Sugar Ridge Dr
Sugar Hill, GA 30518
USA

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Sincerely,

Micah Cooper
1111 S. Locust ST
Oxford, OH 45056
USA

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Sincerely,

Charles T. Carman
184 Yokun Road
Richmond, MA 01254

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Sincerely,

Matt Allen
3130 Darnell RD
Woodlawn, TN 37191
USA

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Sincerely,

Carter Rabasa
1843 Biltmore St NW Apt B
Washington, DC 20009
USA

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

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Sincerely,

Dave Manning
5707 Harney Street
Omaha, NE 68132

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Sincerely,

John Costill
300 burgundy rd
Healdsburg, CA 95448

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Sincerely,

Jeremy Peters, II
230 E 3rd St
Rifle, CO 81650

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Sincerely,

Ralph W. Gidwitz
225 W. Wacker Drive, Suite 1800
Chicago, IL 60606

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Sincerely,

Elissa Palacios
1819 Augusta Dr., #222
Houston, TX 77057

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Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Martha Lawrence
609 West State Highway 18
Manila, AR 72442

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Sincerely,

Robert Mace
1905 Hurley Ave
Fort Worth, TX 76110
USA

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Sincerely,

Harald Doering-Powell
1519 Redwood Grove Terrace
Lake Mary, FL 32746

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Sincerely,

Gregg Moran
711 Corbett Rd. Monkton, Maryland
Monkton, MD 21111

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Sincerely,

Kevin Barkan
109 Monticello Ave
Durham, NC 27707

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If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

John G Brands
900 Hile Lane
Englewood, OH 45322

Wednesday, October 22, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

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Murray Sampson
1832 High Street
Eugene, OR 97401

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Sincerely,

Ken Lake
9437 Elk Grove Florin Road
Elk Grove, CA 95624

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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James Carter
4814 Raven RD
Louisville, KY 40213